

## **Agenda Item #10B**

11/4/15 – 11/5/15

### **The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation 1985-2016: Methods, Costs, and Insights**

The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (Survey) has been sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approximately every 5 years since 1955. The Survey has undergone many changes over its 12 iterations, and 2016 will bring the start of a new era. From 1955 to 1975, the Survey only collected national-level data on fishing and hunting. In 1980, wildlife watching was added to the questionnaire as well as state-level data for all types of wildlife-related recreation. Up until 1991 12-month recall was used. From 1991 to the present, the recall period ranged from 4 to 8 months. There will be two data collection efforts in 2016. One will be by the U.S. Census Bureau. The other will be by Rockville Institute (a subsidiary of Westat).

The presentation will concentrate on the evolution of Survey methodology from 1985 to 2016. Recall period, mode of interview, sample size, response rate, and budget will be compared. Insights into the current survey climate will be discussed. The staff of the National Survey team will be available for questions throughout the task force meeting.

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